



Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man.

COMPRESSED FODDER & PROVENDER.

It is no new thing to press hay in to bales or

bales for the purpose of saving land and rendering

it more convenient to handle during the trans-

portation from place to place. It has been often

suggested that some process similar to this might

be adopted with hay and provender, so as to make

it convenient for people travelling with teams, to

carry it with them in as large quantities as need-

ed, but, at the same time, reduced in bulk. The

Pennsylvania gives, under the head of "a valuable

discovery," a process introduced by a French

veterinary surgeon, Mr. Maudin, and adopted in the

French army, by which the fodder required for

small tablets or cakes in a manner similar to

that used for pressing vegetable substances.

The hay or straw, whichever may be used, is

chopped fine, the oats or corn ground, and then

mixed in proportion to the nutritive qualities af-

forded by each; upon this mixture is poured a

mucilaginous residue of linseed, (boiled), and the

whole is pressed into a hard cake, only re-

quiring to be dried in an oven. These cakes, it is

said, are not only more easily transported than

the material, of which they are composed in their

crude state, being reduced to a much smaller vol-

ume, but they are more easily preserved, also, being

less subject to atmospheric influence, dampness,

etc. The Pennsylvania recommends it to

emigration parties who cross the plains of the far

west, or are exploring new regions of country,

where the supply of provender may be rather pre-

cious.

It would be, also, convenient for some of our

lumber teams, who are so situated in the winter

as to be under the necessity of hauling supplies a

great distance.

STUFFING BEES.

There are several modes of stuffing bees, so

that they shall remain perfectly harmless and in-

deed motionless, while you examine into their

hives and do what you please with the comb, and

they, afterwards, wake up and become active as

before. A smoke made by the burning of a dry

puff ball that is found in our fields and pas-

tures, is sometimes used. The probability is, that

this smoke does not contain so much crocote or

pyroigneous acid, as smoke from wood, and

therefore only stupefies them by the carbonic acid

gas which it contains. We have been told that

smoke from a cotton or linen rag will do the same,

but have never tried it.

Since chloroform has come into use as an

agent for putting people to sleep and rendering

them insensible to pain while under its operation,

it has been used with success to stupefy bees. We

have heard of some instances where, when used,

it stupefied them forever, for they never awak-

ed again to life. This shows that some care must be

used in applying it.

The mode recommended as being successful, is

to blow the vapor of chloroform into the hive

until the bees are asleep, when they can be handled

with safety, and in a few hours they are again as

busy and as lively as ever.

For the Maine Farmer.

RECLAIMING WET LANDS, &c.

MR. EDITOR:—Many an observing and reflect-

ing farmer has frequent occasion to notice some

unutilized, unimproved spots abounding in

swamp bushes, black mud and water, frogs, &c.,

and to devise some means by which such dark

spots (often in close proximity to farm buildings,

and connected with fair and fertile fields, whose

pages) may be restored to green meadows, fine

gardens, or rich cultivated fields. Such thoughts

are suggested, but too seldom is the work exe-

cuted among our farmers in Maine.

We have but few such men as Dr. Lowell

Marston, who are ready to engage in right car-

dinal in changing vast bogs to fertile fields, show-

ing us plainly that such land will pay for redeem-

ing. My attention was recently turned to this sub-

ject by viewing a fine field and garden in Wil-

met, N. S., made up from a bog. The owner, Levi

Phinney, very kindly showed me the grounds and

productions, and furnished the following state-

ment.

Twenty years ago, he cleared up four acres of

black, swampy land, then covered with alder,

ash and hemlock. Soil, or rather vegetable de-

posit from three to ten feet deep. This he par-

tially drained with open drains. He moved it

ten years, average crop, three tons of hay per

acre. He then sunk thirteen drains, from three

to three and one-half feet deep, and about four

rods apart, across the lot—filled drains ten

inches deep with small stones, which were cov-

ered with slabs, and finished by filling up with dirt.

Plowed the whole, and has since cultivated it as

a garden; has never applied any manure or fertil-

izer except a few ashes sifted on the plants to pro-

tect them from insects. In 1857, he harvested

650 bushels of beets and carrots on one acre; in

1858, sold from less than one-fourth an acre a

barrel of seed to the amount of \$30—\$120. This

season about one-half the lot is devoted to pars-

nips, (the finest crop I ever saw growing), beets

and seed—has already harvested about 200 lbs.

of beet seed, and has nearly as much more grow-

ing, and a quantity of carrot seed.

Perhaps many may claim as large crops as the

Friend P. has a small fruit garden containing

one-half acre, from which he has harvested, this

season, eight bbls. of nice apples, and six bushels

of plums. One Magnum Bonum, six years old,

produces one and three-fourth bushels. This

garden also produces seed, fruit trees, &c.

S. N. T.

For the Maine Farmer.

SEASON FOR TRANSPLANTING FRUIT

TREES.

As the inquiry is frequently made, "which is

the best season to transplant fruit trees," I will

answer, that according to my experience, as a

general rule in Maine, I should prefer the spring,

although, upon dry soils, and when the land is

not apt to heave badly with frosts, they do well

when set in the fall, and frequently better than

when removed in the spring, as the earth is gen-

erally in better condition in the fall than in early

spring, and by the action of frosts becomes more

closely attached to the roots, so that the change

is less perceptible than when planted in the spring,

especially should the weather prove dry. When

done in the fall it is preferable soon after the

leaves fall. For more than twenty years past I

have transplanted trees in the fall, and do not

recollect of losing any but one, and then in con-

sequence of the ground being frozen at the time.

A few years since I planted a row of apple

trees, and the following spring another by their

side. Both lived equally well, but those that

were planted in the fall made the greatest growth.

I think the spring decidedly preferable for pears,

plums or cherries and the most of shrubbery, un-

less protected with evergreens or something simi-

lar, but it is a good method to take them up and

remove them to the place of planting and heel

them in, to be ready to plant as soon as the frost

is out in the spring, the holes having been dug

in the fall, and the earth lightly pulverized by the

action of the frosts. This will apply equally

well to apple trees when the land is too wet for

fall transplanting.

D. TANNER.

Vassalboro', 10th, 1859.

For the Maine Farmer.

MR. BAKER'S WHEAT OROF.

MR. EDITOR:—Mr. Baker, of OROF, informed

me a few days since that he was not so fortunate

this season as in former ones, for two reasons:

First, the seed was injured by the thrashing (in a

machine), a third part of which, at least, did not

come up well, and much of it, not at all. Sec-

ondly, owing to the unfavorable state of the

weather, and backwardness of the spring, it was

not sown so early by some two weeks, as in for-

mer years. Nevertheless he has an average crop

of excellent wheat, plump and fair. The healthy

kernels spread out more stalks in place of the

deficient ones. But what is most worthy of notice

is the fact, that all the injured grain that finally

sprouted and was lying behind the rest the

whole season, was injured by the midge, while

the other wheat escaped. As the season has

been more favorable to the growth and perfec-

tion of wheat than in some former years, it is

taken for granted that wheat cultivated in the usual

manner, will have been equally as successful, though

but little was sown. It is to be hoped that

we shall soon hear from others who have adopted

Mr. Baker's mode.

J. P. BACOTT.

Farmington, Sept. 10th, 1859.

For the Maine Farmer.

EARLY FATTENING OF ANIMALS.

The philosophy of increase of fat in animals is,

that the digested food not needed to supply the

system, is laid up in the form of fat around the

muscles, ready to be absorbed again into the

circulation if needed. Waste is induced by exer-

cise, or use of the muscles, and also by combus-

tion in the lungs, of the digested food, to supply

animal heat. Hence, the same amount of food

given in warm weather will, if digested, afford a

greater surplus of fat than when fed in cold

weather. Hogs or other animals intended for

fattening, should be shut up this month. Many

advocate making the size of the fattening pen so

small that the animal will have just room to stand

or lie. While confinement favors rest and a dis-

position to fatten, too close quarters are not

healthful for the animal, which needs moderate

exercise to promote digestion. The quality of the

food produced must be somewhat impaired by any

confinement that interferes with the health. The

appetite may be kept up by change of food, a fre-

quent supply of green vegetables, such as corn,

cabbage leaves, pea vines, and the refuse of the

garden. Cooked food digests much more easily

than raw, and is in a condition to yield more

nourishment, and is also better relished by most

kinds of stock. Cleanliness in the fattening pen

should not be overlooked. Although pigs pro-

verbally are filthy, they are not really so; they do

not delight in the effluvia of their own dropp-

LETTERS FROM THE PROVINCES—NO. 3.

The dyked lands of Nova Scotia are like the

prairies of the west in extent and fertility. The

tide waters of the Bay of Fundy once extended

over nearly all the low lands of the peninsula

across to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Wherever a

river empties into the Bay the tide flows far

into the country and deposits its sediment upon

the adjacent lands, where the river banks are not

too high, and thus, in the process of time large

tracts of land have been raised up to a level with

high water, and the occasional high tides shut

off by dykes or earth walls; and these lands are

the richest of any in this country, capable of pro-

ducing hay and grain and fruit to an indefinite

extent. They extend, some of them, as far as the

eye can reach, and are cultivated from year to

year, and from generation to generation, without

any sensible waste of the fertilizing power of the

soil. There is one of those tracts of dyked land

in the county of Kings, extending over a consid-

erable part of the townships of Horton and Corn-

wallis, and is considered the garden of Nova Sco-

tia. It was here that the French settled long be-

fore the English had possession of the country.

The touching story of Evangeline, by Longfellow,

has its location upon this grand prairie. The

Acadians settled on the basin of Minas, and re-

sided from the tide 2100 acres of land. This

land lies in the town of Horton, and since the

French were expelled from the country in 1755,

the land has been rescued from the tides by a

succession of dykes for a distance of nearly thirty

miles. After the expulsion of the Acadians by the

English, which will ever remain a dark page in

English history, the country was settled by

emigrants from Connecticut in the year 1760—

five years after the Acadians left. At the place

where they landed, "they found sixty ox carts,

and as many yokes of the unfortunate French

had used in conveying their baggage to the vessels

that carried them away from the country; and at

the skirts of the forest, heaps of the bones of

sheep and horned cattle, that, deserted by their

owners, had perished in winter for want of food."

To those of your readers who are not familiar

with this portion of the early history of our coun-

try, I will just say that after peace was conclud-

ed between England and France in the year 1713

by which treaty Nova Scotia was ceded to Eng-

land, the Acadians residing in the ceded territory

still clung to France and refused to become

subject to the Crown of Great Britain. The Eng-

lish, finding an enemy within their borders, final-

ly resolved to reduce them to submission, or ban-

ish them from the country. A proclamation was

issued summoning the Acadians to take the

oath of allegiance, or leave the country. They

refused to make the election, and on the 24th

of September 1755, the order went forth for their

expulsion from the country, and on the 10th of

the same month, they were put on board of ves-

sels and the whole transported from Nova Scotia,

and their lands and property forfeited to the

Crown. Those unfortunate people were landed

at different points in the States, and their descend-

ants may now be found in almost every part

of our great country. It is not my purpose to mor-

alize on this act of severity on the part of the

English, or upon the blind stubbornness of the

Acadians, but merely to state the fact and cause

of their expulsion from the country which their

own industry had subdued and made fruitful. I

will now return to the subject of this letter—the

dyked lands of Nova Scotia.

There is another extensive marsh, or rather

series of marshes on a branch of the bay that

makes up between Anson, N. S., and Sack-

ville, N. B. This is called the great Tantam

marsh, and extends as far as the eye can reach.

Opposite, on Minidapa point is another marsh of

3400 acres called the Elysian fields. These are

some of the many marshes or dyked prairies that

abound throughout the Province. Of their soil

and fertility I shall speak in my next.

G.

DARK STABLES.

It cannot be doubted that light exercises a very

important influence upon animal as well as upon

vegetable economy. Every one's feelings bear

witness to the stimulus afforded by its agency; a

dark day or a dark room induces lassitude and

repose, which is quickly dissipated by the bright

